



Real "home" to the traveling Millses is a Sussex farm near London.

A Family That Won't Be Separated

The John Mills clan travels all over the world to make theatrical headlines—but always together

By PEER J. OPPENHEIMER

WHEN IT COMES to theatrical families, the John Mills clan easily ranks as one of the most talented on either side of the Atlantic.

John himself has won acting honors in a score of films, including "Great Expectations," "Hobson's Choice," and Walt Disney's current "Swiss Family Robinson."

His 14-year-old daughter Hayley all but stole the show from her famous father in "Tiger Bay," charmed audiences as "Pollyanna," and recently finished another Disney film, "Parent Trap."

Hayley's 18-year-old sister Juliet electrified theatergoers in London and New York with her performance in the play, "Five Finger Exercise."

Their mother, Mary Hayley Bell, is a former actress and now a successful author.

Not to be outdone, the youngest Mills, 10-year-

old Jonathan, made a screen test which came out so well he was offered a contract by Disney, but he turned it down as "too much work."

With such talent and careers, you'd think a normal existence for the Millses would be impossible.

Yet exactly the opposite is true. The reason is the closeness of the family, their ability to laugh at themselves, and their insistence on keeping together no matter what the sacrifices.

TO HOLD the family intact, Hayley and Jonathan quit school early to join the rest of the clan in Tobago, the West Indies, while their father starred in "Swiss Family Robinson"; Juliet took three weeks off from her play to fly to California while Hayley filmed "Parent Trap"; and John gave up a lucrative film for J. Arthur Rank to keep his family company when they settled in Beverly Hills while Hayley worked.

Not satisfied with hotel living, the Millses

rent a home wherever they go, be it Tobago or Beverly Hills, and quickly establish a routine. Mrs. Hix, their housekeeper, is flown in to cook, Hayley and Jonathan are enrolled in local schools, and a few mementos of home are placed around the house—such as Hayley's stuffed animals, John's pipe rack, and Mary's dictionary and thesaurus.

Their "real home" is a Sussex farm near London where they raise horses and cattle. They move to London only when one of them is working there. Then they settle down in their fashionable but crowded West End apartment, where the girls double up on the living-room couch, and Jonathan has to sleep on the floor.

The Millses refuse to countenance any egotism which might be fostered by fame, and insist that the children do their share around the house, no matter where they are. This includes making their own beds and putting away their clothes.

It's a hectic family life—but a close, happy one.



When John Mills (Left) was in Tobago, West Indies, for role in film, "Swiss Family Robinson," wife Mary and children Jonathan, Hayley, and Juliet joined him.

Here the Millses unfold their dramatic talents: from left, Hayley Mills, with Adolphe Menjou, charmed us in "Pollyanna"; John Mills stars with Dorothy McGuire in "Swiss Family Robinson"; Juliet Mills, with Jessica Tandy, played in "Five Finger Exercise."

